

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

ANOTHER MASON IN THE FIELD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."
SIR.—As your paper is particularly given to straightforwardness and bold declaration of views, permit me, in default of other means of speaking out, as the most honest course and in hopes that others will follow my example, to announce that I wish to join the Kolos Hul.

My reasons are so simple that I am surprised they have not led many to adopt them, and the foreign Governments to show some favour to the movement.

(1) China is badly governed. Her administration is in such a state of chronic chaos, so constantly condemned by everybody who encounters it in any of its innumerable and unconscionable tortuousities, that I need not dwell on it.

(2) The Chinese national character is so unalterable and so crystallized that there is practically no prospect of amelioration. The millennium will have to leave China out.

(3) In any violent civil convulsion, however circumstanced, the Europeans now on hand will be able to get in. This is really the only chance, such as it is, of improvement.

Those are, briefly, the incontrovertible arguments in behalf of a revolution in China. Of course, there are very many features to be considered, and my only doubt is that I may overlook some vital point. But it must be safe to assert that the Kolos society will put a very high value on European aid. Is that correct? Then, by offering all the assistance possible (and that is saying a good deal) the European section of the revolutionary party could to a reasonable extent make their own terms. On that depends the extent to which I will go. My suggestions would be—

(1) Avoid treaty ports entirely. There is plenty of room to retire into strictly Chinese quarters, and the reform party must abandon the foolish move of attacking the Government through the foreigners. Thus we at once enlist foreign sympathy.

(2) All foreigners beyond treaty limits must have notice to quit. Give fair warning, and then they must take the consequences of their own conduct.

(3) A definite plan of reform must be drawn up and subscribed by the leaders of the Society, adopted by all adherents, and formally laid before the Emperor and his advisers. If granted, a peaceful revolution will have been accomplished; such as might well receive the support of all foreigners. If refused, we must do as all reformers have done. We have the people with us, and a people have always the right to assert themselves.

It is more than I can do to develop the programme in detail, but with a few good men it would not be difficult to secure so much more aid than the reform party's demands should be entertained, their justice recognised and urged on the Emperor by his own advisers and the friendly Powers. It all depends on the extent to which foreigners will openly express what in private they all feel.

In now appealing to all white men to aid in this bloodless revolution, I am aware that the question arises—what if it fails? If negotiations are unsuccessful, and the members of the Kolos European and Chinese are declared traitors? If the Society is coerced and compelled to defend itself by force? The answer is—that at the point where violence begins—the recent riots being dissociated from what I am now discussing—at this point, Europeans must cease active connection with the Society, or if they continue, as a few might, they take their chances, knowing that they are at once outlawed; they declare war against China, and with the Kolos sink or swim.

Hongkong, 20th October, 1891.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

BERLIN, September 27th.

A discussion is being ardently carried on by the German press on the proposal to reduce the length of the compulsory service in the Army to two years.

LONDON, September 29th.

Stephens, the head centre of the Fenian organisation, has returned to Dublin after twenty-six years' outlawry. He declares that his political opinions are unchanged.

The gunboats *Assaye* and *Plassy*, which have been built for the Indian marine, have completed their armaments and sail for India shortly.

ROME, September 29th.

An impressive service was conducted by the Pope this morning at St. Peter's. His Holiness, wearing the Pontifical dress, was carried on the sedia to church with great pomp, and celebrated mass, which sixty thousand foreign pilgrims attended.

BELOGRADE, September 29th.

The reported betrothal of King Alexander to Princess Helena, daughter of Prince Nicholas of Montenegro, is officially denied here.

LONDON, September 30th.

The first two sections of the Manchester Ship Canal comprising eleven miles, have been opened to regular traffic.

Mr. Bindell Maple, the purchaser of "Common" has decided to send the horse to stud forthwith, owing to its falling health.

The Hon. Mr. Childers, member for Edinburgh South, proposes to retire from Parliament.

The Republican Convention of the State of Colorado has adopted a resolution in favour of bimetalism.

BERLIN, September 30th.

Owing to public feeling in Germany, the bankers of Berlin have withdrawn from taking part in the issue of the new Russian loan.

OTTAWA, September 30th.

The Dominion House of Commons has adopted an address to the Queen, praying for a repeal of the favored nation clauses in the treaties with Belgium and Germany.

PARIS, September 30th.

Particulars of the suicide of General Boulanger show that he has been heart-broken since the death of his mistress, Madame Bonnamy, on whose tomb he daily laid flowers. He had repeatedly threatened to commit suicide, and was in consequence deprived of all fire-arms, but he managed to obtain a revolver, with which he put an end to himself.

The revenue for the financial year just closed shows a net increase of half a million.

BUEENOS AYRES, October 1st.

The Government of the Argentine Republic has issued a decree authorising a forced paper currency, with a gold premium of a hundred and fifty per cent. Payments in gold have been suspended for two years. A new monetary unit has been adopted, and Government is coining silver and nickel.

VIRENNA, October 1st.

Two bombs were exploded yesterday in the town of Rosenthal, damaging the railway bridge over which the Emperor Francis passed to-day. It is considered probable that the explosion was

planned with the object of disturbing the public rejoicings over his Majesty's visit to Bohemia.

NEW YORK, October 1st.

The Chamber of Commerce has adopted a resolution demanding the repeal of the law requiring the monthly purchases of silver to be made.

WASHINGTON, October 2nd.

The Treasury has purchased to-day 799,000 ounces of silver at prices ranging from 77.50 to 77.65.

LONDON, October 2nd.

The National Liberal Federation Congress has been opened at Newry.

The invention of Capt. Arthur Wilson of the torpedo school ship *Vernon*, of a cutting apparatus which enables the Whitehead torpedo to traverse a wire netting guard at an angle of forty-five degrees has been tested at Portsmouth with perfect success.

Major Wissmann is coming to the Nile valley to engage Soudanese recruits for service with the German forces in East Africa.

October 3rd.

Mr. Gladstone, addressing a meeting yesterday, said he was convinced that a Liberal victory was approaching. The British occupation of Egypt was a cause of weakness, and he would rejoice if Lord Salisbury, before the overthrow of the Government, would settle the question, but the Government would probably bequeath it to its successors.

He also alluded to the defence of the House of Commons, and advised a great effort being made by the Liberal party to extend labour representation in the House of Commons. Parliament, he said, must charge election expenses to the rates. In conclusion, he urged the Liberals to exercise great caution before adopting any compulsory limitation of the hours of labour.

October 3rd.

A number of French pilgrims, whilst visiting the Pantheon on Friday, were accused of insulting the tomb of Victor Emmanuel. A riot ensued, and the pilgrims were assailed by a large crowd, which a great effort being made by the Liberal party to extend labour representation in the House of Commons. Parliament, he said, must charge election expenses to the rates. In conclusion, he urged the Liberals to exercise great caution before adopting any compulsory limitation of the hours of labour.

Mr. Gladstone, who has been attending the National Liberal Federation at Newcastle, was yesterday presented with the freedom of that town. In the course of his speech in returning thanks for the honor, he urged the necessity of the country adhering to Free Trade. Mr. Gladstone has now returned to Hawarden.

October 4th.

The statue of Garibaldi which has been erected here, was unveiled to-day by the Mayor. Several Italian and French deputies were present at the ceremony, and most cordial speeches were made. Mr. Rouvier, Minister of Finance, speaking on behalf of the Government, said he warmly desired to see the closest entente between France and Italy.

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Defence Committee and the Military Committee must be understood to turn. It is this also which assumes the form of a success under any circumstances likely to arise.

The chief command of the military forces of defence has been undertaken by Colonel Pontal, with Major Richter, Captain de Fleury, and Commander Hossy in command of the different positions.

The force enrolled numbers 148, of whom not more than 12 may be classed as non-combatant. For convenience the force has been grouped as follows:—

(1) Russians and Americans (9 and 8 men respectively).....	17
(2) English (including 2 Danes).....	45
(3) French.....	15
(4) German.....	37
(5) Japanese.....	15
(6) Customs.....	10
	148

As the members of the force will receive their orders from their respective Commanders, or the Commander-in-Chief. It is not necessary to enter into details here, but only to inform the residents, generally, of the nature of the measures concerted for the common safety, so as to prevent confusion should the time come to put them in force.

The area to be included in the first line of defence will be from the French Consulate to the Custom House, along the Felling and Hain Yuen Roads to the Temperance Hall; thence along the Taku Road, to Meadows Road and to the Bund. The system of barricades at different points is detailed in the Scheme of Defence.

The defence of positions has been allotted to the various sections of the force, in the first instance, as follows:—

The right wing, from Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. to the French Consulate, will be defended by the English, French, and the Customs Corps, under the command of Captain de Fleury.

The left wing, from Messrs. Collins & Co. to the Temperance Hall will be defended by the Germans, under the command of Major Richter, and the Japanese under Commander Hossy.

The Russians and Americans, with missionaries and other gentlemen not grouped in the above sections, will form the Reserve, at the Town Hall.

These arrangements, however, being necessarily subject to modifications, can only be taken as provisional.

The Intelligence Department, under the direction of Mr. Deiring, Chairman of the British Municipal Council, assisted by Mr. W. N. Petrick, will be formed in the Town Hall, where all reports and information will be received and sifted, and their value judged; and all necessary communications made to the military commanders.

Residents should keep their arms and ammunition ready in their houses, and on the signal of alarm being given they should repair at once to their respective posts.

In case of alarm the following signal will be made:—

Two buglers will make the round of the settlement around the alarm; the bells of all churches will be rung continuously; a red flag will be displayed from the Town Hall by day, and a red lamp by night, when three rockets also will be fired.

On the alarm being given all women and children will repair at once to the Town Hall, where every comfort, medical and other, will be provided that may be possible under the circumstances.

When residents abandon their houses they should see that all entrances are close and barricaded.

In case of fire occurring within the military lines, the force will be called out to guard the approaches to the settlement and prevent goods collecting. The Fire Alarm will be: Gongs rapidly beaten through the streets. There will be no occasion for families to leave their houses as in the case of a general alarm.

It would be desirable, if possible, that the occupants of houses on either side Victoria Road should provide means of communication from one compound to another parallel to the street, so as to admit of the force, while leaving the street free for artillery fire.

In addition to the military and other precautions above referred to the residents may be further assured that such diplomatic resources as are at the disposal of the Committee for the maintenance of peace have not been, and will not be, neglected.

Finally, the Committee have perfect confidence in the efficacy of the defence, so long as the community remains united.

By order of the Defence Committee,
G. DETRING, Chairman.
A. MICHIE, Hon. Secretary.

Tientsin, 5th October, 1891.

THE JELEBU COMPANY.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Jelebu Mining and Trading Company Limited, was held in the Exchange Rooms, Singapore, on October 15th, for the purpose of receiving the directors' report and accounts for the half-year ending the 31st August.

Mr. Joaquin occupied the chair and there were present: Messrs. Hooper, Reid, and Messrs. directors: Messrs. S. Murray, and Messrs. Becker, Felchner, Graham, Ewell, Joaquin, Derrick, King, Dunman, Boyd, and others, shareholders.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been read and approved, the report and accounts already published, were taken as read. Mr. Joaquin then said:—

Gentlemen.—The Directors' report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, we will, with your permission, take them as read. I have nothing to add to that report; it is full and we have given you in detail every thing we have done during the last half-year, and I have no doubt the shareholders will consider the accounts very satisfactory. There are only two points that I should like to refer to; first, as to our capital, you will see by the accounts that large sums of money are in fixed deposits in the Banks, and it has been said that these deposits may be better utilized by a reduction of the capital of the company. The directors are of opinion that such a course would be most inadvisable; you must remember we are procuring Australian miners, and we shall require our capital for the operation to be conducted by these Australians, and we also think it inadvisable to have money upon which we may fall back on emergency. The next point that I wish to refer to is the paragraph in the report with reference to the directors' remuneration; it is a personal question and we thought it right to point out to you how inadequately your directors are remunerated for their services. You must not think, gentlemen, that the directors' work is done by their meeting once a month at a table discussing matters. That is not so with us. Every correspondence between the agents and manager, and other persons are circulated amongst the directors. Sometimes once and sometimes twice a week, there are often very voluminous and one has to devote a considerable part of one's time to grapple with the facts, and to record one's opinion, with reference to the letters and subjects submitted. I have thought it right to explain this, so that you may take such action as you

may deem advisable with reference to the directors' remuneration. With these remarks, I move that:—The directors' accounts be passed and, as recommended by them in their report, an interim dividend of 7 per cent. be paid for the last half-year.

Mr. M. G. King seconded the motion, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Mr. G. S. Murray—I think that thanks are due to the directors of the Company for their very excellent report which has been issued to you, and which you have just taken as read. The Chairman in his speech has referred to the very paltry remuneration which the directors have drawn during the past half-year for attending to our interests in, I may say, a very careful and satisfactory way. I do not think any of us can, for a moment, say that the fee of \$485 paid to the directors for their services in carrying the sum of \$38,000 is adequate remuneration for the services rendered. The directors have benefited by their past experience in other companies and have brought that experience to bear in the interest of our Company and I think we ought to show our appreciation of their services in some substantial way. I beg therefore to bring forward two propositions:—

That in recognition of their past services a sum of one thousand dollars be paid to the Directors to be equally divided amongst them.

When that first resolution has been passed, I have another to bring forward.

That an extraordinary general meeting of the Company be held at the Registered Office of the Company on Friday the 23rd of October inst. at noon when the following resolution will be proposed:—

That the articles of association be altered by the following words being substituted for the first sentence in article 88 ending with the words "an additional \$10" namely:—

"The remuneration of every director for his services shall be the sum of fifty dollars per month for every complete calendar month he continues in office."

The sum of fifty dollars may seem a large one, but, according to the Articles of Association, as they at present stand, the Directors, if they choose, might by having one meeting a week, get sixty dollars a month apiece so that we are really altering the wording of the Articles of Association, but not giving power to draw a larger amount of money; and I have always found in my experience that a fixed remuneration is better than so much a meeting, because it is far more satisfactory to the directors that they should be able to take home their papers, and so give their decisions at other times than those at which they are called together.

The motion was then seconded by Mr. Nathan.

Mr. Graham said that, before the motion was put, he would like to offer a few remarks by way of amendment without disparaging the directors. He thought the good results were in a measure due to their staff at Jelebu, and he thought that if the directors proposed a small bonus for them it would be for the good of the Company.

Mr. Reid pointed out that a percentage on dividends declared is given to the manager, and a new arrangement of a similar kind was under consideration for his assistant. On the dividend now declared Mr. Dunman would draw about \$800 of bonus. The motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Chairman on behalf of the directors thanked the shareholders for having passed the resolution. It was gratifying for them to know that their services had been appreciated; and for himself and his brother directors he would say that so long as they remained on the board the interests of the company would be at heart.

Mr. G. S. Murray then moved that an extraordinary general meeting be held on Friday, 23rd instant, for the purpose of submitting the resolution of which he had given notice in the terms mentioned above.

Mr. Nathan seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Reid further offered the remark that the bonus system to the manager was quite automatic in its action. The sum he would draw for bonus was already treated as a liability of the Company.

The Chairman having intimated that the coupons were payable at the New Oriental Bank this day, the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.—*Strait Times.*

TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tientsin, 12th October.

On the afternoon of the 10th instant a notification was issued under the heading of the "Imperial Chinese Railways and China Railway Company," as follows:—

"H. E. the Viceroy has this day consolidated the management of the Imperial Chinese Railway Company, and appointed Yang Taotai sole Managing Director, with special charges of finances and official matters."

"Mr. W. N. Petrick has been appointed Assistant Managing Director with control over the working staff and ordinary business of both lines."

"YANG HUNG-TIEN, Managing Director."

"W. N. PETRICK, Assistant Managing Director."

A Chinese telegram was received yesterday to the effect that the Viceroy of Nanking has selected (Tsun-kai) Mr. Ma Kie Tokeong's property for account of monies due by him to the C. M. S. N. Co. If this telegram is correct, and the Chinese declare it is, he will not be likely to resume his old office as interpreter, nor take the general management of the *Shikho* jointly with Mr. Deiring, Hoo and Chin.

We have again three steamers above and three steamers below the Tientsin Bend. All are waiting for higher water. The highest water in the shallowest part of the river was 10½ feet. Some of the steamers lately accepted, and the cotton crop is reported as large. Cotton is selling with seeds, 120 cash per catty, against 250 cash last year.—*Shanghai Mercury.*

Our export market has become somewhat lively, large quantities of goat and sheep-skins, rugs, wools, furs, etc., are arriving from the interior. Untanned black goat-skins, 40 skins to the picul, have been sold here at Tls. 12.00; 75 skins to the picul at Tls. 15.20 per picul. Yesterday sheep-skins, 44 to the picul, at Tls. 10.60 per picul.

I hear that everything is quiet in Shanghai. The late rain was very acceptable, and the cotton crop is reported as large. Cotton is selling with seeds, 120 cash per catty, against 250 cash last year.—*Shanghai Mercury.*

Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites, is especially adapted to all conditions where the tissues are wasting away from inability to digest and assimilate ordinary food. The combined virtues of the Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites produce a marked effect in such cases. They restore the wasted tissues, create an appetite, make new blood, heal the inflammation of the throat and lungs, and increase the flesh. In short they form the finest combined food and medicine that can be given the invalid. Any Chemist can supply it. A. B. Watson & Co. (Limited), Agents in Hongkong and China.—*Advert.*

Intimations.

ART SERGES

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in China, Japan and Corea.
Hongkong, 15th September, 1897. [1897]

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